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Executive Registry

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

20520

March 3, 1976

The Honorable George Bush
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Ambassador Bush:

The Senior Seminar in Foreign Policy is looking forward to its annual visit to CIA. Each year the Members have benefited greatly from their sessions with senior officials of the Agency. [] has informed me that this year's visit has been programmed for Tuesday, May 4.

[] who along with [] are the CIA Members of the Seminar, has already discussed a schedule for that day with []. We earnestly hope that you will be able to spend some time with us during the day.

Since you may not be familiar with the Senior Seminar, let me tell you something about it. The Seminar provides the senior most training available to officials of the United States Government agencies with foreign affairs responsibilities. It is conducted by the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of State and has a membership composed of senior grade officials and officers with twenty to twenty-five years of government service. This year's class numbers 26, with a little less than half being Foreign Service Officers and the remainder consisting of officials of other agencies, such as AID, USIA, CIA, Agriculture, the four military services and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. The purpose of the Seminar is to give specially selected officials, prior to their moving into top level senior positions, a ten-month opportunity for expanding and deepening their perceptivity of and perspectives on what is happening and why in America and the world. This is accomplished through a curriculum composed of speakers on a wide scope of subjects, travel throughout the United States, reading, an individual case study, and in-house discussions.

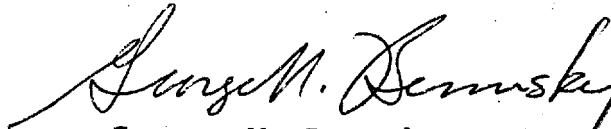
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Enclosed you will find materials of use to you and others in the Agency: a description of the course, brochure, and biographies of the Members and staff.

All Members have Top Secret and Q clearances. Also all discussions are considered off-the-record and speakers' remarks are never attributed.

Our best regards,

Sincerely,

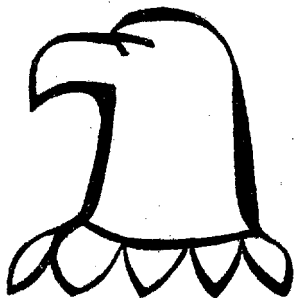
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George M. Bensusan".

George M. Bensusan
Deputy Coordinator

Enclosures:

1. Brochure
2. Biographies
3. Description of Course

SENIOR SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY



**EIGHTEENTH
SESSION
1975 - 1976**

**ITS PURPOSES
AND
ITS MEMBERSHIP**

**FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Foreign Service Institute

SENIOR SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY



Department of State

EIGHTEENTH SESSION

September 2, 1975 - June 25, 1976

MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES

ASKIN, Peter W.

FSR-2

AID

Born: South Dakota, 1929

Education: St. Johns University (1947-49); Montana State University, B.A. History and Political Science (1951); Montana State University, M.S. International Relations (1956); University of Pittsburgh (1968-69).

Experience: U.S. Army (1951-54); Investigator, U.S. Civil Service Commission (1956-59); Management Intern, U.S. Civil Service Commission (1959-61); Management Analyst, Agency for International Development (AID) (1961-62); Desk Officer for Guatemala, AID/Washington (1962-63); Assistant Program Officer, U.S. AID Mission to Guatemala (1963-65); Program Officer, U.S. AID Mission to Paraguay (1965-68); Graduate Student in Economic and Social Development Studies, University of Pittsburgh (1968-69); Assistant Director for Development Office of Argentine, Paraguayan and Uruguayan Affairs, AID/Washington (1969-72); Deputy Associate Director of Programs, U.S. AID Mission to South Vietnam (1972-74); Director, Office of Cambodian Affairs, AID/Washington (1974-75); Deputy Executive Director, Emergency Indochina Relief and Coordination Committee (April/May 1974); Assistant Director for Operations, Interagency Indochina Resettlement Task Force (1975); Superior Honor Award (1971).

Previous Position: Director, Office of Development Planning, Bureau for East Asia, AID/Washington.

BURKE, John Richard

FSO-1

STATE

Born: Wisconsin, December 7, 1924

Education: B.A. (History), University of Wisconsin, 1947; M.A. (History), University of Wisconsin, 1950.

Experience: U.S. Navy, Pacific (1943-46); Japan/Korea/Europe (1950-53); LCDR; Wisconsin State Historical Society, Librarian (1947-50); Administrative Assistant to the Director (1953-56); Teaching Assistant, University of Wisconsin (1954-46); Bangkok, Deputy Chief, SEATO Division (1957-58); Paris, Consular Officer (1958-61); Assistant British Desk Officer, Department (1961-62); Vietnamese Language Training (1962); Saigon, Political Officer (1963-65); Acting Chief, Political Section (1965-66); Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary, EA, Department (1966-67); Director, Vietnam Working Group, Department (1967-69); National War College (1969-70); Haiti, Deputy Chief of Mission (1970-72); Director, Office of Caribbean Affairs (1972-75).

Previous Position: Director, Office of Caribbean Affairs

Foreign Service Institute

SENIOR SEMINAR IN FOREIGN POLICY

Department of State



EIGHTEENTH SESSION

September 2, 1975 - June 25, 1976

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

I. MEMBERSHIP

The Senior Seminar in Foreign Policy is the senior most training available to officials of United States Government agencies with foreign affairs responsibilities. It is conducted by the Foreign Service Institute of the Department of State and has a membership predominantly composed of Class 1 and 2 Foreign Service Officers, GS-16 civil servants and colonel level military officers.

The Eighteenth Session numbers 28, split 50-50 between Foreign Service Officers and officials of other agencies -- three from USIA, two from each of AID and CIA, one from each of the four uniformed military services and one from each of the following: Agriculture, Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the FBI. They all have had 20 to 25 years' experience in government, including in supervisory and management positions.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Seminar is to give selected officials, prior to their moving into upper senior positions, a ten-month opportunity for expanding and deepening their perceptivity of and perspectives on what is happening and why in America and the world. The emphasis is on broadening their understanding of the issues and forces at work in America and the world rather than on training in methods and techniques of management or other specific subjects. The Seminar encourages free and vigorous inquiry into the complexities of U.S. domestic and foreign policy issues and problems and their interrelationships.

III. CURRICULUM

The curriculum is composed of speakers on a wide range of subjects, travel throughout the United States, reading, an individual case study and in-house discussions.

After an initial week for orientation and just over a week of overviews on the major issues facing America and the world, the Seminar spends twenty-two weeks on what is happening and in prospect in virtually all areas of life in these United States. This includes concentrated attention on the economic situation and trends during the third and fourth weeks. There are also four trips by the group, in this period, to 14 cities in the Mid- and Far-West, Canada and Appalachia, the Northeast and the South.

Description

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The Seminar meets, both in Washington, D.C. and on trips, with top federal, state and city government officials, senators and congressmen, military leaders, scientists, businessmen, union leaders, academics, students, farmers, religious leaders, artists, philosophers, minority leaders, etc. Reading is related to these meetings, as well as encouraged in general.

During the above time frame, the Members of the Seminar have the opportunity to appraise their styles of management and decision-making in an environment that individually shows them their strengths and weaknesses and points the way to more effective methods. There are also speakers on analytical and decision-making techniques and systems and the uses and potentials of computers.

Following six weeks (including travel, research and writing) devoted to individual case studies on domestic or foreign subjects chosen in consultation with the Coordinator, the Seminar spends eleven to twelve weeks digging into major world problems, U.S. foreign policy, and national security and intelligence issues. In this period, there are trips to military installations. Also, Members will make their oral presentations and defenses of their case studies toward the end of this period.

The final two weeks are devoted to summing-up and graduation.

Throughout the 43 weeks of the course there are in-house sessions for the purpose of reviewing and evaluating areas of inquiry and trips and for discussion of selected issues.

IV. METHOD OF STUDY

As its name implies, the Senior Seminar method relies upon colloquy. For a decade and a half, distinguished citizens and officials, scholars and professionals, statesmen and soldiers, entrepreneurs and artists, workers and farmers have shared their wisdom with the Seminar. They spark and guide the dialogue that animates this ten-month program. It is to them that the Seminar owes its reputation as a unique and rewarding experience.

V. RESULT

By the time the Seminar ends, its Members -- both as a group and as individuals -- have composed a mosaic of America, based on what they saw and heard during the months they spent together. While each Member sees that final image in a particular light, all enthusiastically acclaim the excitement and stimulation of this broadening experience. To some extent the viewer is transformed as his viewpoint expands, and the colloquy of the Seminar brings each Member into a new phase of his or her professional life.

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Executive Secretary

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